by the State Governments out of their own plan funds for flood control sector and in accordance with their own priorities. The Centre renders assistance in works that are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature. However, due to fund constraints experienced by the State Governments, an amount of Rs. 30 crores have been provided in 8th Plan for assisting the Ganga Basin States on matching basis for undertaking critical anti erossion measures for villages, towns and monuments of national importance. During 1993-94 Rs. 1 crore was provided to Government of West Bengal as Central Assistance for undertaking critical anti erosion schemes in Nabadwip area.

Irrigation Potential of Vidarbha region

7277. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total irrigation potential of the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra?

(b) how much of this is presently explited;

(c) how much of the exploited potential belongs to the State and the Central Sector; and

(d) how much money from the Central Government was given for any project during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) The total ultimate irrigation potential for the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra is 22.48 lakh hectares.

(b) At the end of the June 1993 irrigation potential created was 6.26 lakh hectares.

(c) All irrigation projects are under State sector. Therefore, the entire irrigation potential is in State secto.

(d) Irrigation being the State subject, irrigation projects|schemes are planned, funded and implemented by the State Governments. However, for the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development (CAD) works of Pench project, an amount of Rs. 14.02 crores was released by the Central Government.

Modernisaition of tank irrigation system in T Nadu

7278 SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 4199 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd April, 1994 and state:

(a) how many tanks in each district were modernised so far since the introduction of the schemes to modernise tank irrigation system in Tamil Nadu;

(b) how many hectares of agricultural land has been benefited so far in each district;

(c) whether Government will approach EEC to extend and expand this scheme to chronically drought affected districts in Tamil Nadu;

(d) the project identiled under Kerala Minor Irrigation Project so far, and where are they located;

(e) how much land will be brought under this scheme, in each district and how many farmers will be benefited; and

(f) how much more agricultural production will go up once the whole project will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Details

indicating the district-wise number of Tanks modernised and area benefited under European Economic Community (EEC) assisted Tank Modernisation Project, Tamil Nadu, Phase-I, are given in enclosed statement-I.

(c) The second phase of Tank Modernisation Project with European Economic Community is already in progress in 13 drought prone districts of Tamil Nadu since 1989. The details of the second phase are given in the enclosed Statement-II. (*See* below).

(d) As per the Project Agreement, the identified project area would include 459 Tanks spread over the whole State of Kerala, 31 Lift Irrigation Scheme mainly spread over Thrissur and Malappuram districts and project management facilities including detailed studies of economic, technical, social and environmental aspects of river basin and land reclamation schemes under the project.

(e) and (f) The project would cover an area of 20,200 hectares with an additional production of about 74,000 tonnes of paddy and 3,800 tonnes of copra.

Statement-I

Districtwise Details of modernised tanks and area benefited in respect of european Economic community assisted tank Modernisation project-phase-I

Sl.No.	Name of Districts	No. of Tanks	Total Area in Hectares
1	Chengal Pattu—NGR	38	5774
2	North Arcot—Ambedkar . . .	34	4779
3	South Arcot	36	4948
4	Pudukkottai	28	3556
5	Pasumpon Muthu Ramalinga Thevar .	23	3369
6	Ramanathapuram	25	3751
7	Kamaraiar	22	3040
		206	29208

Statement-II

Districtwise details of tanks with the areasbenefited by the modernisation of tanks under european economic community assisted tank modernisation project-phase II

Sl.No.	Name of District	No. of Tanks	Area benefited in Hectares
1	2	3	4
1	Changa Pattu—MGR	35	4727.19
2	North Arcot—Ambedkar . . .	8	1050.61
3	Thiruvannamalai-Sambuvarayar . .	10	1383.91
4	South Arcot	17	2111.97

1	2	3	4
5	Trichy	25	2440.13
6	Pudukkottai	27	2817.39
7	Pasumpon Muthu Ramalinga Thevar .	7	483.37
8	Ramanathapuram	11	870.19
9	Kamarajar	16	1346.22
10	Maduari	14	1831.46
11	Dindigul—Anna	5	687.96
12	Thirunelveli—Kattabomman . . .	12	1702.74
13	V.O. Chidambaranar	3	344.12
		190	21797.26

Ground Water Resources in Gujarat

7279. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted in the ground water resources in the desert areas of Kutch region of Gujarat;

(b) whether Government have identified several potential aquifers leading to development of plants to construct tube-wells in clusters; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to ameliorate the drinking water scarcity in Kutch region of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. the Central Ground Water Board has identified Umia sandstone aquifer in the central part in Kutch district, the Katrol sandstone aquifer in eastern part of Kutch and a potential sandstone aquifer of limited aerial extent around Kapaia in Mandvi-Mundra taluka.

(c) The development and use of ground water for various purposes including drinking water supply is done by State Government.

Linking of Vaigai with Pamba and Achankovil

7280. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to link Vaigai with Pamba and Achankovil;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) when was this proposal envisaged;

(d) how much water was expected to be diverted;

(e) how many people will get drinking water;

(f) how much land will be brought under irrigation; and

(g) what will be the cost of the project?